

US Army Corps
Of Engineers
Wilmington District

PUBLIC NOTICE

Issue Date: October 5, 2005
Comment Deadline: November 4, 2005
Corps Action ID #: 200320418

All interested parties are hereby advised that the Wilmington District, Corps of Engineers (Corps) has received an application for work within jurisdictional waters of the United States. Specific plans and location information are described below and shown on the attached plans. This Public Notice and all attached plans are also available on the Wilmington District Web Site at www.saw.usace.army.mil/wetlands

Applicant: Mr. Dan Danieleley
Burlington-Alamance Airport Authority
3441 North Aviation Drive
Burlington, North Carolina, 27215

Agent (if applicable): Mr. Jay Talbert
Talbert & Bright
4810 Shelly Drive
Wilmington, NC 28405

Authority

The Corps will evaluate this application and decide whether to issue, conditionally issue, or deny the proposed work pursuant to applicable procedures Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

Location

The project site is at the northeast end of Runway 6-24, at the Burlington-Alamance Regional Airport, which is located south of U.S. Interstate I-40, east of N.C. Highway 62, and north of Anthony Road (SR 1148), in Burlington, Alamance County, North Carolina. Coordinates (in decimal degrees) for the site are 36.0540° North, 79.4657° West. The project site contains two unnamed tributaries to Gum Creek and adjacent wetlands, located in the Cape Fear River Basin (8-Digit Cataloging Unit 03030002).

Existing Site Conditions

The project site is located immediately northeast of the existing runway. A perennial tributary to Gum Creek flows across the site perpendicular to the proposed path of the runway extension approximately 1,000 feet from the end of the existing runway. Three

additional stream and wetland systems flow into northeast side of the perennial tributary within the runway extension area. All of the wetland and stream features have been identified and are depicted on the plans included in this public notice.

The majority of the area was previously used for agricultural crop production, and due to its proximity to the runway, the area has been mainlined in low vegetation as a safety measure. As a result, the majority of the project sites, including the wetland and riparian zones, are vegetated with herbaceous shrubs and low woody vegetation. The area was also disturbed in 2002 by the relocation of the runway localizer, which was required to bring the site in compliance with Federal Aviation Administration guidelines. The relocation of the localizer resulted in impacts to 0.41 acre of wetlands and 770 linear feet of stream impact, authorized in 2002 by Nationwide permit (USACE Action ID 200220906).

Applicant's Stated Purpose

The applicant's stated purpose for the proposed project is to extend the existing runway from a length of 5,000 feet to a length of 6,000 feet in order to facilitate safe and efficient operations by corporate jet aircraft. The project is needed in support of current and forecast levels of corporate jet operations at the airport and as an infrastructure element important to economic vitality and growth in the region.

Project Description

The applicant proposes to extend Runway 6-24 and its parallel taxiway 1,000 feet to the northeast, including embankment construction of the Runway Safety Area, Localizer Critical Area, and emergency/maintenance access road. The extension of the 100-foot wide runway and 35-foot wide taxiway would involve 3.37 acres of new pavement. The new runway surface would require a maximum fill height of 37 feet, and would pass over a 716-foot steel arch culvert installed to carry the perennial tributary to Gum Creek under the runway. The tributary would have to be relocated to flow within the arch culvert, and the length of the channel within the culvert would be lined with riprap to prevent scour. An additional 200 feet of channel disturbance would be required upstream and downstream of the culvert to transition the stream into the culvert and stabilize the new banks.

The smaller lateral tributaries would be rerouted to the main channel using a combination of pipe culverts and an open channel located along the south side of the runway fill slope. The project would require the placement of approximately 420,000 cubic yards of earthen fill, of which approximately 50,000 cubic yards would be placed into streams and wetlands.

The total proposed impact to streams and wetlands associated with the project includes 0.72 acres of riparian wetlands and 1,770 linear feet of stream channel. The applicant proposes to mitigate for unavoidable impacts to streams and wetlands at a 2:1 ratio by payment into the North Carolina Ecosystem Enhancement Program for the restoration of

1.44 acres of riparian wetlands and 3,540 linear feet of warm water stream channel within the Cape Fear River Basin (8-Digit Cataloging Unit 03030002). Plans that show the proposed project details are included with this notice.

Other Required Authorizations

This notice and all applicable application materials are being forwarded to the appropriate State agencies for review. The Corps will generally not make a final permit decision until the North Carolina Division of Water Quality (NCDWQ) issues, denies, or waives State certification required by Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (PL 92-500). The receipt of the application and this public notice in the NCDWQ Central Office in Raleigh serves as application to the NCDWQ for certification. A waiver will be deemed to occur if the NCDWQ fails to act on this request for certification within sixty days of the date of the receipt of this notice in the NCDWQ Central Office. Additional information regarding the Clean Water Act certification may be reviewed at the NCDWQ Central Office, 401 Oversight and Express Permits Unit, 2321 Crabtree Boulevard, Raleigh, North Carolina 27604-2260. All persons desiring to make comments regarding the application for certification under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act should do so in writing delivered to the North Carolina Division of Water Quality (NCDWQ), 1650 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1650, Attention: Ms. Cyndi Karoly, by October 28, 2005.

Essential Fish Habitat

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The Corps' initial determination is that the proposed project will not adversely impact EFH or associated fisheries managed by the South Atlantic or Mid Atlantic Fishery Management Councils or the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Cultural Resources

The Corps has consulted the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places and is not aware that any registered properties, or properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein are located within the project area or will be affected by the proposed work. Presently, unknown archeological, scientific, prehistoric, or historical data may be located within the project area and/or could be affected by the proposed work.

Endangered Species

The Corps has reviewed the project area, examined all information provided by the applicant and consulted the latest North Carolina Natural Heritage Database. Based on available information, the Corps has determined pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, that the proposed project will have no effect on federally listed endangered or threatened species or their formally designated critical habitat.

Evaluation

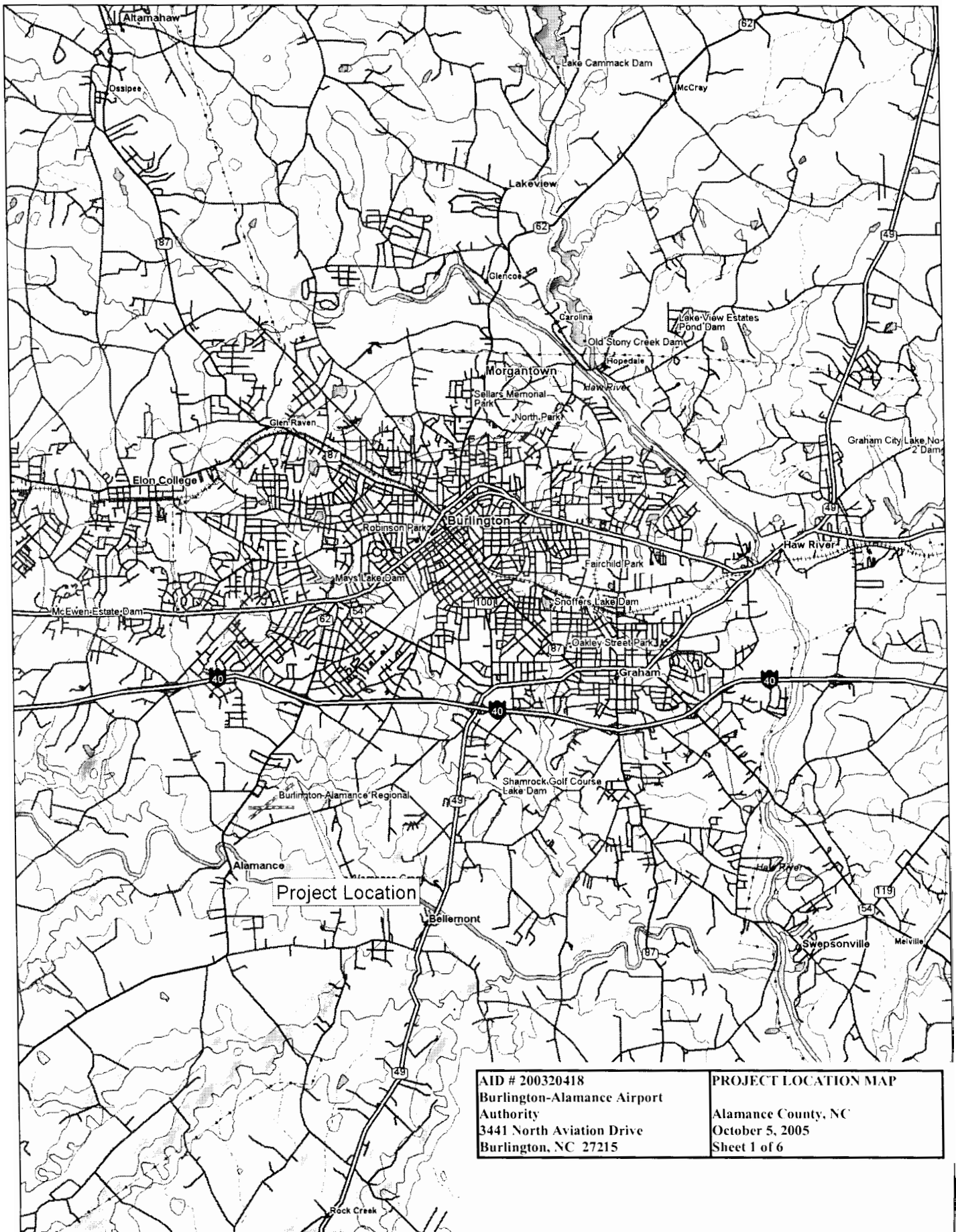
The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit that may reasonably be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values (in accordance with Executive Order 11988), land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving the discharge of dredged or fill materials in waters of the United States, the evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) guidelines.

Commenting Information

The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) and/or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. Requests for a public hearing shall be granted, unless the District Engineer determines that the issues raised are insubstantial or there is otherwise no valid interest to be served by a hearing.

Written comments pertinent to the proposed work, as outlined above, will be received by the Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District, until 5pm, November 4, 2005. Comments should be submitted to Mr. Todd Tugwell, US Army Corps of Engineers, Raleigh Regulatory Field Office, 6508 Falls of the Neuse Road, Suite 120, Raleigh, NC 27615, or by telephone at (919) 876-8441, ext. 26.



AID # 200320418
 Burlington-Alamance Airport
 Authority
 3441 North Aviation Drive
 Burlington, NC 27215

PROJECT LOCATION MAP
 Alamance County, NC
 October 5, 2005
 Sheet 1 of 6

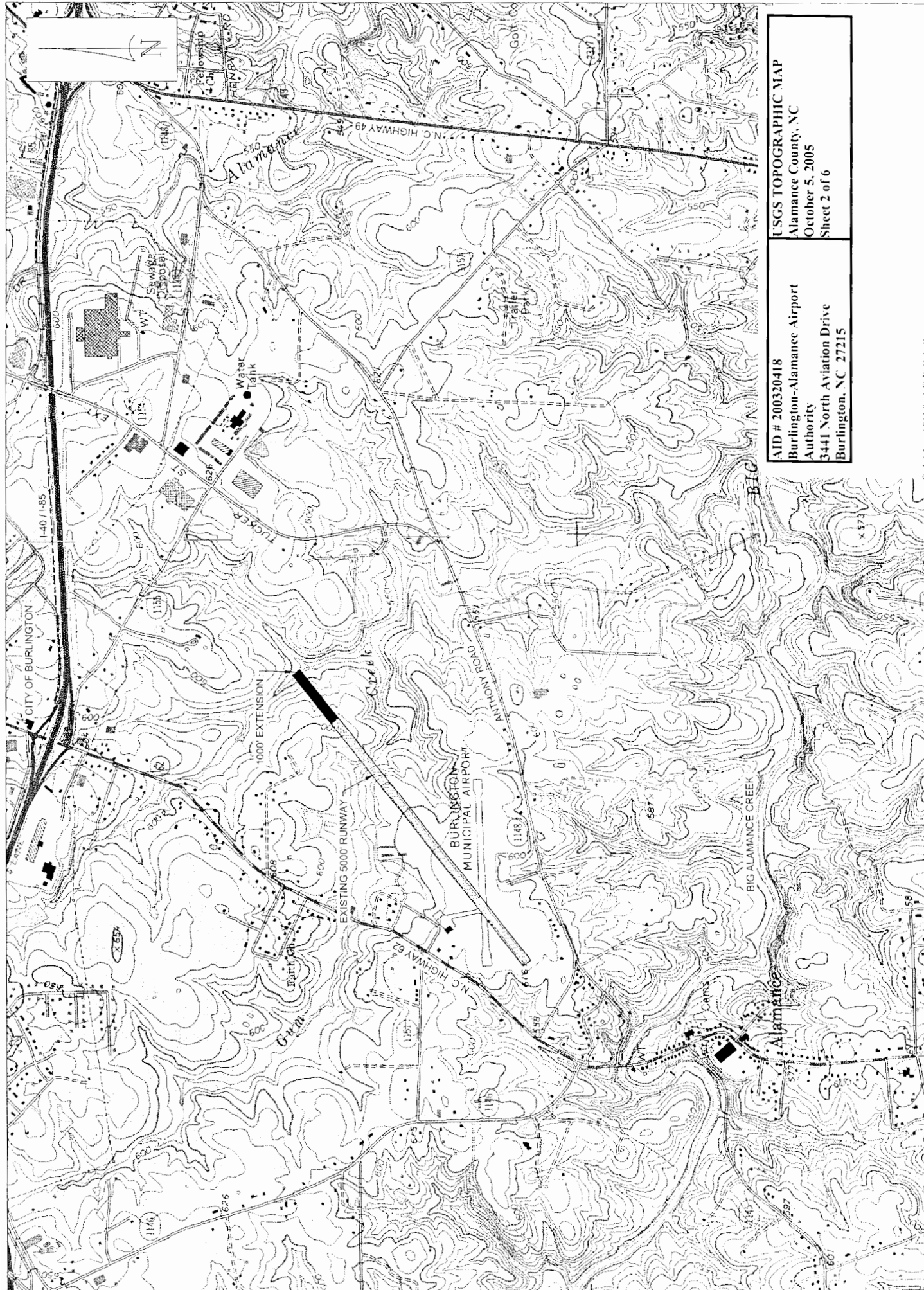


© 2001 DeLorme, Map Print Pack
 Zoom Level: 11-0 Datum: WGS84

Scale 1 : 100,000
 1" = 2 mi

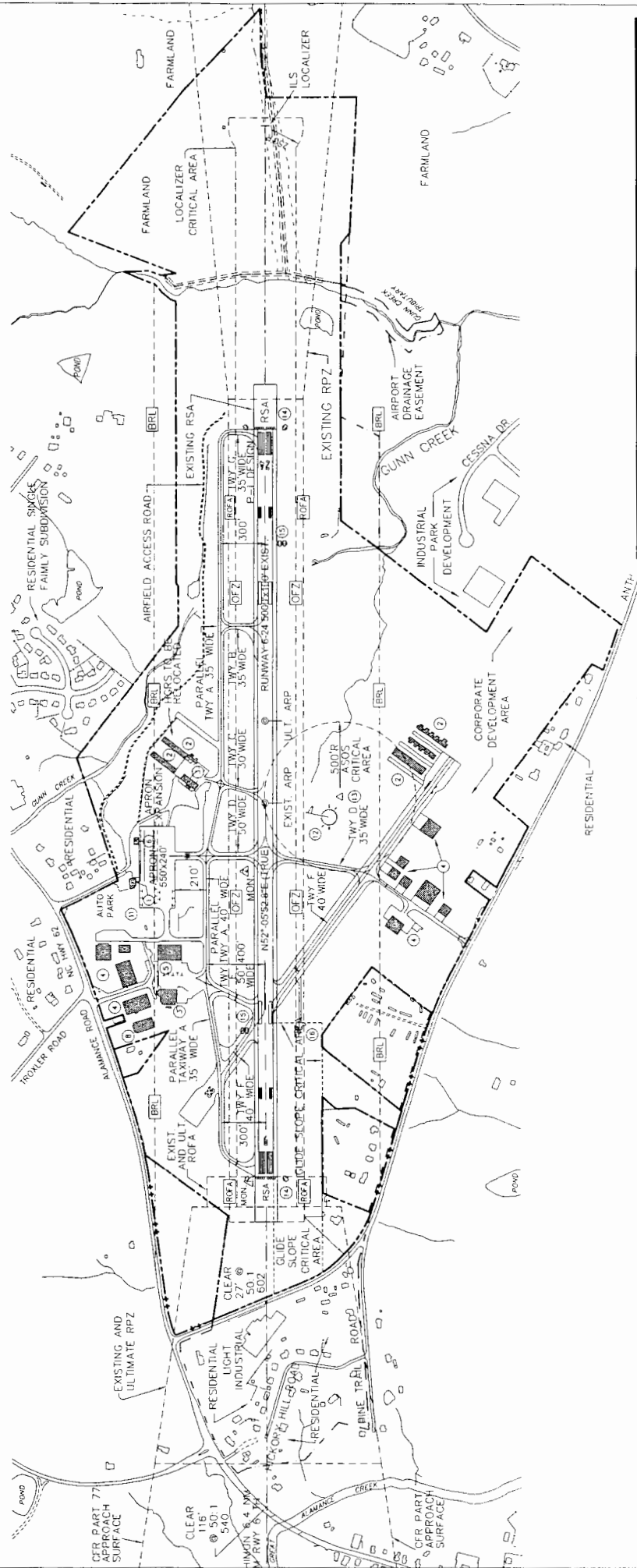


TN
 MN
 8.0°W

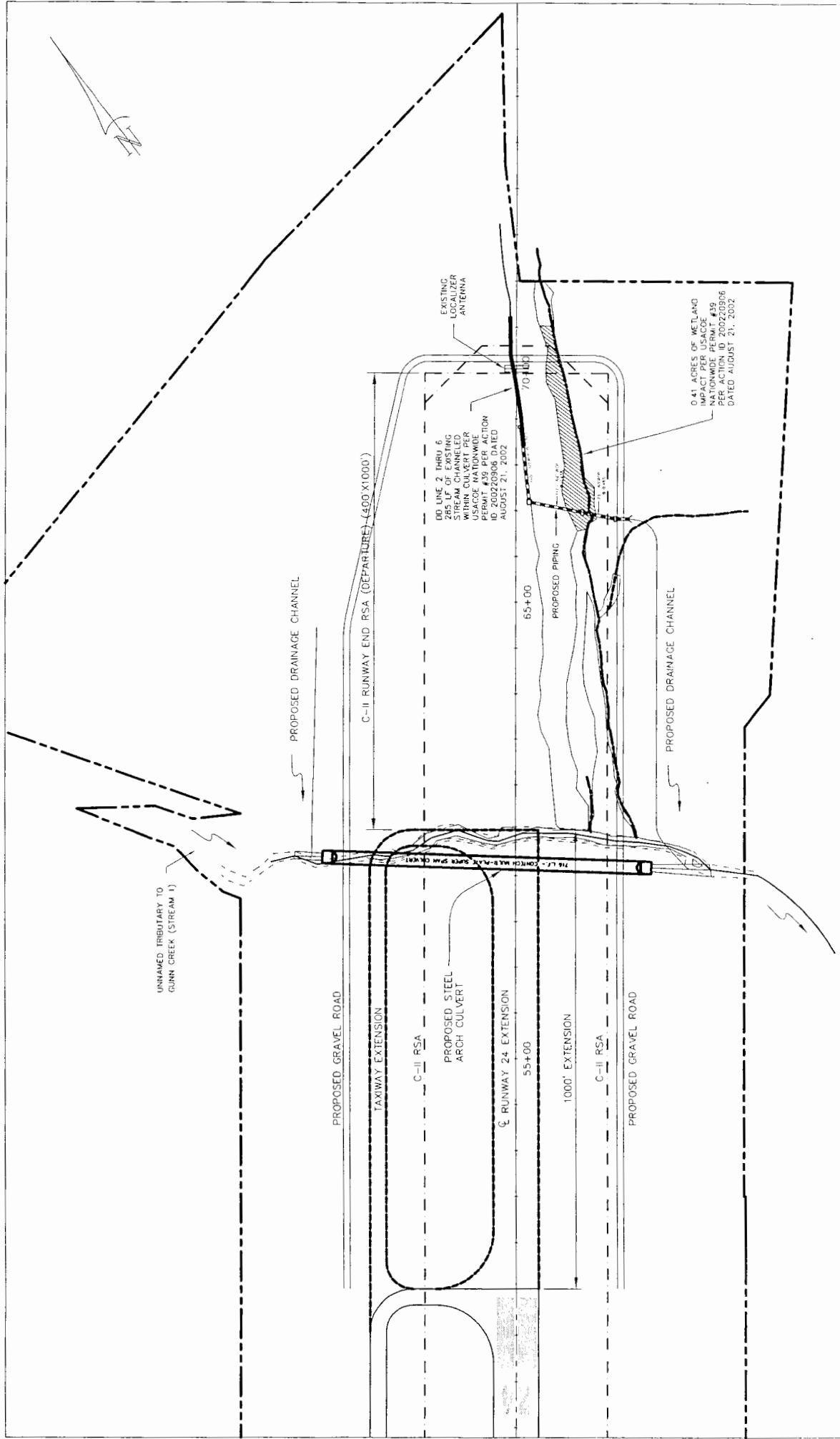


TSGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP
Alamance County, NC
October 5, 2005
Sheet 2 of 6

AID # 200330418
Burlington-Alamance Airport
Authority
3441 North Aviation Drive
Burlington, NC 27215

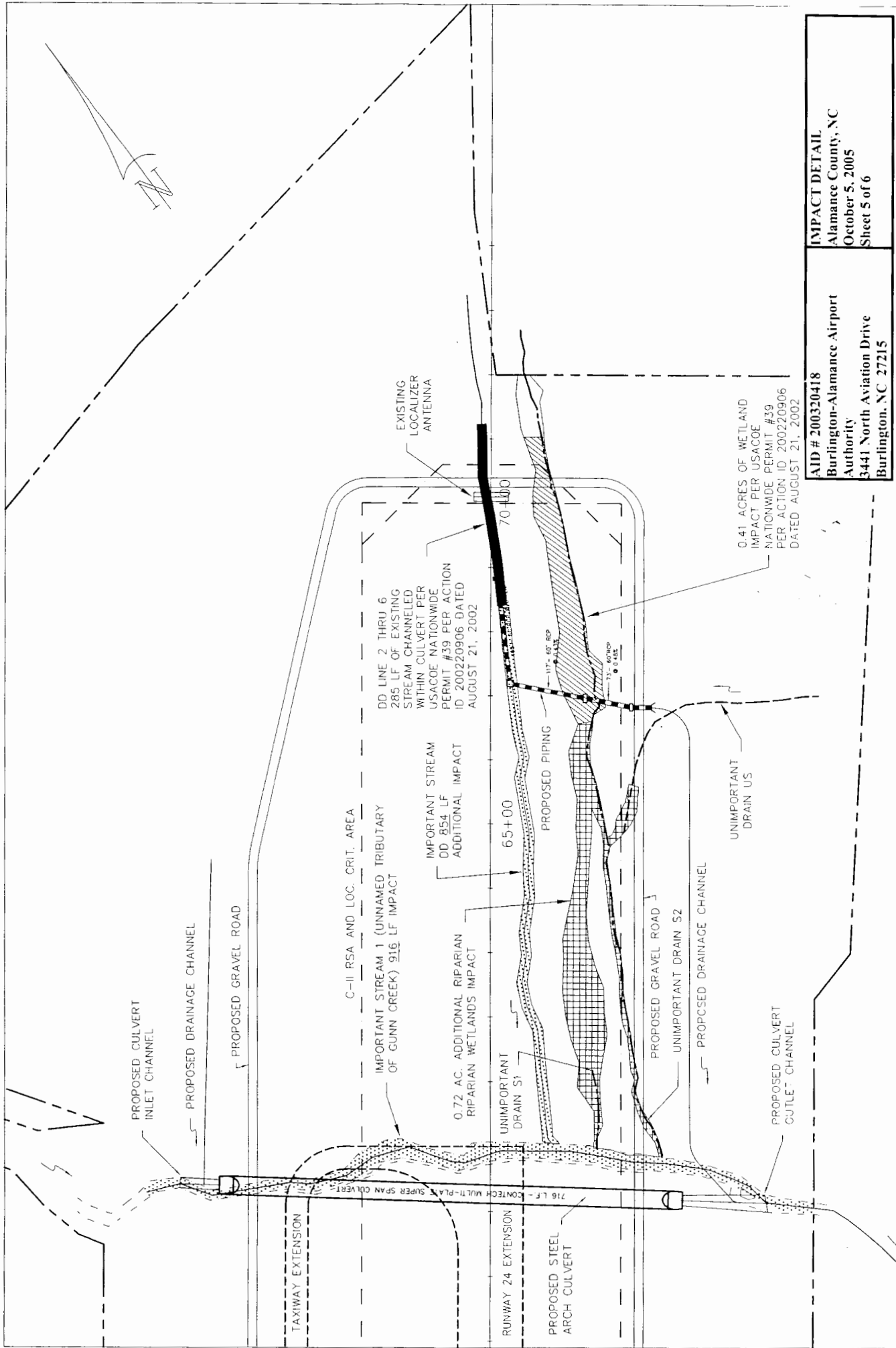


<p>AID # 200320418 Burlington-Alamance Airport Authority 3441 North Aviation Drive Burlington, NC 27215</p>	<p>EXISTING CONDITIONS Alamance County, NC October 5, 2005 Sheet 3 of 6</p>
--	--

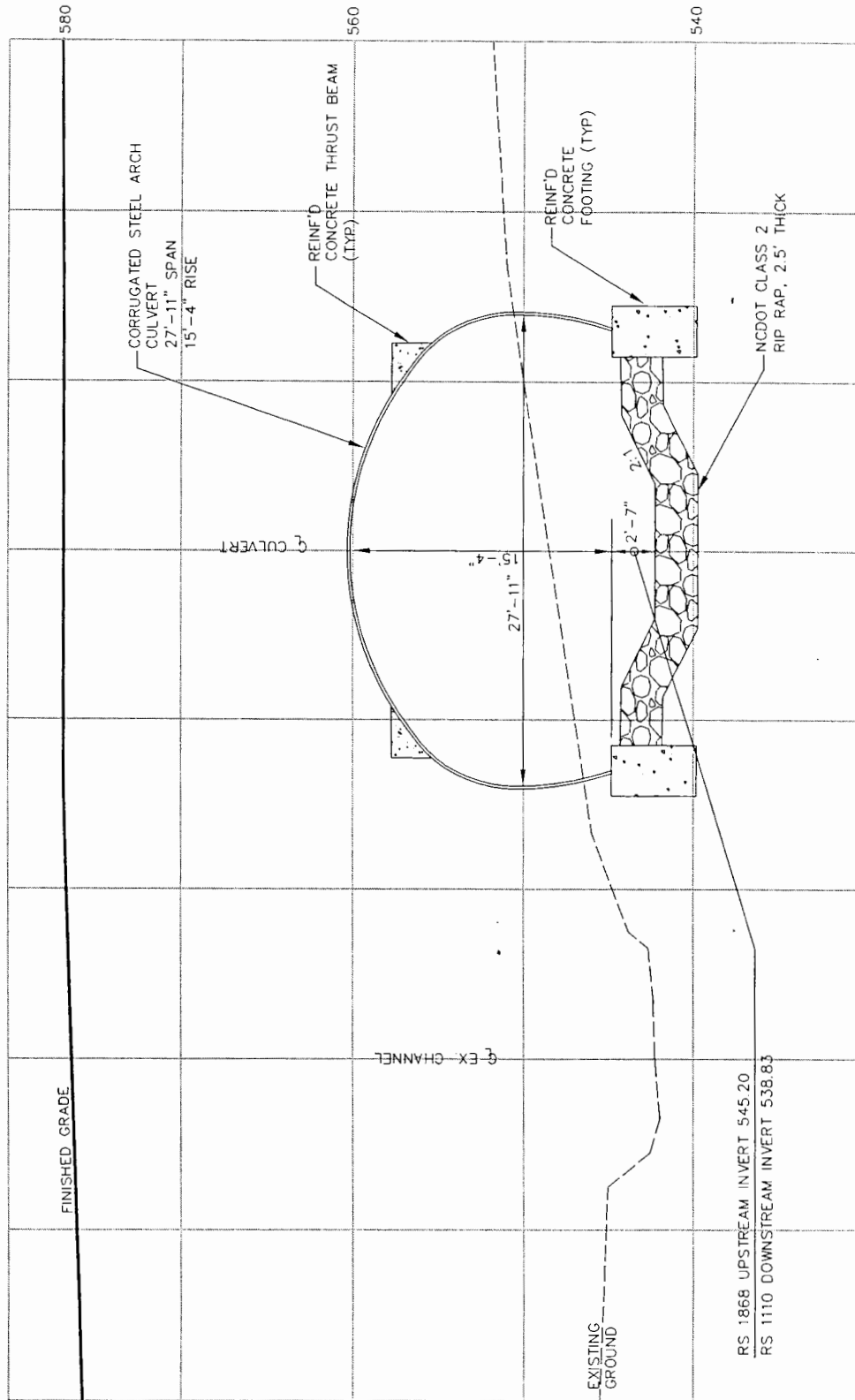


AID # 200320418
Burlington-Alamance Airport
Authority
3441 North Aviation Drive
Burlington, NC 27215

PROPOSED EXTENSION
Alamance County, NC
October 5, 2005
Sheet 4 of 6



<p>IMPACT DETAIL Alamance County, NC October 5, 2005 Sheet 5 of 6</p>	<p>AID # 200320418 Burlington-Alamance Airport Authority 3441 North Aviation Drive Burlington, NC 27215</p>
---	--



BURLINGTON - ALAMANCE REGIONAL AIRPORT
 RUNWAY 6-24 EXTENSION
 TYPICAL SECTION OF CULVERT
 UNNAMED TRIBUTARY OF GUNN CREEK (STREAM 1)

SCALE: 1" = 10'

AID # 200320418
 Burlington-Alamance Airport
 Authority
 3441 North Aviation Drive
 Burlington, NC 27215

PROPOSED CULVERT
 Alamance County, NC
 October 5, 2005
 Sheet 6 of 6